

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 389

By Faison

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of the Honorable James Kenneth Porter of Newport.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of our former colleague the Honorable James Kenneth Porter, who devoted his life to serving his community and the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the son of the renowned trial attorney John Calhoun Porter, James Kenneth Porter followed in his father's footsteps and enjoyed an exemplary career as an attorney, politician, public servant, and judge; and

WHEREAS, Judge Porter earned his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville and obtained his Juris Doctor degree from the University of Tennessee College of Law; and

WHEREAS, he distinguished himself among his peers by serving as a delegate to the Southeastern Law Review and editor-in-chief of the *Tennessee Law Review*; he was named Outstanding Law Graduate by Phi Delta Pi legal fraternity and was awarded the Order of the Coif; and

WHEREAS, after completing his studies, Judge Porter returned home to practice law and also served astutely as Cocke County attorney, chairman of the Cocke County Election Commission, and chairman and member of the executive committee of the Cocke County Republican Party at various times; and

WHEREAS, during the 82nd and 83rd General Assemblies, Kenneth Porter served the good people of Cocke and Jefferson counties as a member of the Tennessee House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, in 1972, he returned to Capitol Hill to serve as a member of the Senate during the 88th General Assembly, representing Cocke, Grainger, Hamblen, Jefferson, Union, and part of Claiborne counties; and

WHEREAS, James Kenneth Porter served with distinction as Circuit Court Judge for the Fourth Judicial District, in which position he demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity and won the unbridled respect and admiration of members of the bench, the bar, and a grateful public as well; and

WHEREAS, he was joined in marriage on September 17, 1955, with Evelyn Janet Rhodes, and their joyous union produced two wonderful children, Jane Caroline and James Kenneth, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, Judge Porter leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of the Honorable James Kenneth Porter, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Judge Porter.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.